

C850

9th cen AD

Arab workmen tunneled through
Cheops pyramid and found only
a rifled sepulcher.

850 AD

The explosive mixture of saltpeter (potassium nitrate), sulfur, and charcoal, called gunpowder was known in China at least by 850 A.D.

Early mixtures had too little saltpeter (50%); 75% min is needed

850

The Edda(s)

mythological Norse poem

C850

described 1643

850-870

Iceland

Iceland nation in north Atlantic
first settled by Norsemen c 850-
1870

C 850

Built on 118 alluvial islets

Venice was built on wooden
pilings sunk in the ooze of a
backwater lagoon, well, 1,000 yrs
ago.

It is still sinking

850

Viking warrior-traders who penetrated deep into Europe established the first Russian state around A.D. 850, with its centre at Kiev

C850

Under ABDERRAHMAN II ^{Spain} and
his successors, Caliphate of
CORDOVA enters period of
weakness.

AD 850

Porcelain China

850 \pm 50 AD to 1450 \pm 50

The Khmer Empire centered
at Angkor thrived